

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/774,857

Examiner

Binh C. Tat

Applicant(s)

FUNG ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/22/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-58,62 and 63.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 06/27/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


JACK CHIANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence M. Cho (Reg. No. 39,942) on 06/27/07.

The application has been amended as follow:

Claim 1 line 3, before "satisfy", delete "a".

Claim 1 line 3, after "satisfy", insert --a--.

Claim 33 line 4, **change** "determining minimum and maximum delay budgets for connections along a path by finding a set of connection delays that satisfy short-path and long-path timing constraints for the path" **to** --determining minimum and maximum delay budgets for connections along a path by finding a set of connection delays that satisfy a short-path timing constraint for the path, which indicates that a delay from one end of the path to an other end must be no smaller than a first value, and a long-path timing constraint for the path, which indicates that a delay from one end of the path to an other end must be no larger than a second value--.

Claim 48 line 2, **change** "a slack allocator unit that generates minimum and maximum delay budgets for connections along a path from long-path and short-path timing constraints for the path" **to** --a slack allocator unit that generates minimum and

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maximum delay budgets for connections along a path from a long-path timing constraint, which indicates that a delay from one end of the path to an other end must be no larger than a first value, and a short-path timing constraint for the path, which indicates that a delay from one end of the path to an other end must be no smaller than a second value--.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-58, and 62-63 are allowed because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for designing a system, comprising: determining minimum and maximum delay budgets for connections along a path by finding a set of connection delays that satisfy short-path timing constraint for the path, which indicates that the delay from one end of the path to an other end must be no smaller than a first value, and a long-path timing constraints for the path, which indicates that the delay from one end of the path to the other end must be no larger than a second value and combination of all other features corresponding to the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh C. Tat whose telephone number is 571 272-1908. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 - 4:00 (M-F).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571 272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tat Binh

Patent Examiner

July 2, 2007


JACK CHIANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER